

8 AUG 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Deputy Director for Administration

SUBJECT : Office of Security Action Plan/Objective
Number: B57103

Complete during FY 1975 a study of the impact of a prohibition of the non-operational use of the polygraph and similar techniques and develop alternatives to the polygraph in the investigation and adjudication of non-operational cases.

1. This memorandum is for information only.
2. During FY-75, the Office of Security completed a study of the impact on Agency security, should non-operational use of the polygraph be prohibited. As part of the study, a number of options were considered as possible substitutes for the polygraph. A report of the study is attached as Tab A.
3. After a careful review of the Tab A alternatives, we conclude that there is no currently available substitute for the polygraph. However, since this objective called for presentation of a specific alternative, we have chosen to present a plan which we call the Security Risk Test (Tab B).
4. There is mixed professional opinion as to whether it is even feasible to produce a product such as the Security Risk Test. Such a test, if produced, would be necessarily tied to current security standards and policy which are always subject to change. Any such change could invalidate the test and require additional expenditure of manpower to develop a new one. Furthermore, there is the possibility that the same legislative proposals which seek to outlaw the polygraph would be extended to prohibit the use of stress-inducing psychological tests of this type.

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5. In our opinion there is no assurance that the Security Risk Test could be made to produce meaningful results. Therefore, in even forwarding it to your office we have grave reservations as to its potential to substitute for the polygraph. We intend, accordingly, to take no further action to pursue Tab B and will consider it instead a "shelf item."

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Robert W. Gambino
Director of Security

Atts

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